

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 68, and add new claim 126, as follows.

1-67. (Cancelled)

68. (Currently Amended) A method of making an elongated, composite, structural material, comprising the following steps:

(a) supplying a single strip of a porous web material selected from the group consisting of paper and cloth, the web material including a barrier layer comprising polyvinyl alcohol;

(b) applying an epoxy thermosetting-resin-precursor mixture to the web material so as to impregnate the web material, the barrier layer of the web material stopping a migration of the epoxy thermosetting-resin-precursor mixture through the web material;

(c) laying reinforcing cords on at least one side of the web material to which the thermosetting-resin-precursor mixture has been applied, the cords being (i) substantially continuous, (ii) laid parallel to each other in the lengthwise direction of the web material, and (iii) laterally connected to each other by cross-cording;

(4) forcing the single strip of web material into a sleeve-like configuration by wrapping and pulling the single strip of web material over an elongated mandrel having the desired cross-sectional shape of the structural material, with a cord-carrying side of the web material facing the mandrel;

(5) depositing on the cord-carrying side of the web material, in the sleeve-like configuration, a fluid matrix-resin-precursor composition that is compatible with the epoxy thermosetting-resin-precursor mixture applied to the web material in step (b) and which, when reacted, yields a rigid matrix resin; and

(6) holding the sleeve-like configuration together under conditions that are conducive to the setting of (i) the matrix resin and (ii) the thermosetting resin applied to the web material, and for a length of time sufficient for all of the resins to set, whereby the cords are bonded to the web material, the web material is stiffened, a core space within the sleeve-like configuration is substantially filled with the matrix resin, and the matrix resin is bonded to the sleeve-like configuration.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the matrix-resin-precursor composition comprises the reactants and blowing agent necessary to form a rigid foamed polyurethane as the matrix resin.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the web material is paper.

71. (Cancelled)

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the cords comprise synthetic fibers or filaments.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72, wherein the cords comprise glass fibers or filaments.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72, wherein the cords comprise polyester fibers or filaments.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the cords are substantially continuous and, in step (c), are laid parallel to each other in the lengthwise direction of the web material.

76. (Cancelled)

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the matrix-resin-precursor composition comprises pieces of at least one filler solid selected from the group consisting of lignocellulosic materials, cellulosic materials, vitreous materials, cementitious materials, carbonaceous materials, plastics, and rubbers.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the filler solid comprises tire rubber fragments.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the filler solid comprises a vitreous material.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the web material is kraft paper that has a basis weight of about 65 to 100 lbs.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the web material is kraft paper that has a basis weight of about 90 lbs.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the filler solid comprises tire rubber fragments, in an amount such that the rubber occupies about 20 to 90 volume percent of the core space following the completion of step (f).

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the filler solid comprises tire rubber fragments, in an amount such that the rubber occupies about 45 to 75 volume percent of the core space following the completion of step (f).

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the filler solid comprises tire rubber fragments, in an amount such that the rubber occupies about 55 to 65 volume percent of the core space following the completion of step (f).

85-87. (Cancelled)

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, further comprising a step of providing the exterior of the sleeve-like configuration with at least one coating selected from the group

consisting of plant-growth repellants, fire or flame retardants, reflective particles, pigments, dyes, anti-corrosion chemicals, friction-increasing coatings, and wood veneers.

89-119. (Cancelled)

120. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the matrix-resin-precursor composition comprises a melamine-formaldehyde resin.

121. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the matrix-resin-precursor composition comprises polystyrene.

122 - 123. (Cancelled)

124. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the filler solid comprises expandable polystyrene beads.

125. (Cancelled)

126. (New) A method of making an elongated, composite, structural material, comprising the following steps:

(a) supplying a single strip of a porous web material selected from the group consisting of paper and cloth, the web material including a barrier layer comprising polyvinyl alcohol;

(b) applying an epoxy thermosetting-resin-precursor mixture to the web material so as to impregnate the web material, the barrier layer of the web material stopping a migration of the epoxy thermosetting-resin-precursor mixture through the web material;

(c) laying reinforcing cords on at least one side of the web material to which the thermosetting-resin-precursor mixture has been applied, the cords being (i) substantially continuous, (ii) laid parallel to each other in the lengthwise direction of the web material, and (iii) laterally connected to each other by cross-cording;

(d) forcing the single strip of web material into a sleeve-like configuration by wrapping and pulling the single strip of web material over an elongated mandrel having the desired cross-sectional shape of the structural material, with a cord-carrying side of the web material facing the mandrel;

(e) depositing on the cord-carrying side of the web material, in the sleeve-like configuration, a fluid matrix-resin-precursor composition that is compatible with the epoxy thermosetting-resin-precursor mixture applied to the web material in step (b) and which, when reacted, yields a rigid matrix resin, the fluid matrix-resin precursor composition being supplied through an interior passage in the elongated mandrel; and

(f) holding the sleeve-like configuration together while passing through a continuous mold under conditions that are conducive to the setting of (i) the matrix resin and (ii) the thermosetting resin applied to the web material, and for a length of time sufficient for all of the resins to set, whereby the cords are bonded to the web material, the web material is stiffened, a core space within the sleeve-like configuration is substantially filled with the matrix resin, and the matrix resin is bonded to the sleeve-like configuration.